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## ✓ Latest release

# Employee earnings

Weekly earnings of employees, including distribution of earnings and hourly earnings, by State, Occupation, Industry and Qualifications

Reference period August 2022

Released 14/12/2022

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## Key statistics

- Median employee earnings was \$1,250 per week, up \$50 (4.2%) since August 2021.
- Median hourly earnings was \$37 per hour, up \$1 since August 2021.

### Earnings guide

To learn more about our different labour measures, their purpose and how to use

them, see our [Guide to labour statistics \(/statistics/understanding-statistics/guide-labour-statistics/\)](/statistics/understanding-statistics/guide-labour-statistics/). It provides summary information on labour market topics including [Earnings \(/statistics/understanding-statistics/guide-labour-statistics/earnings-guide/\)](/statistics/understanding-statistics/guide-labour-statistics/earnings-guide/) data.

## Other topics

Statistics from the [Characteristics of Employment \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-working-conditions/characteristics-employment-australia/latest-release/\)](/statistics/labour/earnings-and-working-conditions/characteristics-employment-australia/latest-release/) survey are also published in three other topic-based releases.

- [Working arrangements \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-working-conditions/working-arrangements/latest-release/\)](/statistics/labour/earnings-and-working-conditions/working-arrangements/latest-release/)
- [Trade union membership \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/trade-union-membership/latest-release/\)](/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/trade-union-membership/latest-release/)
- [Labour hire workers \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-working-conditions/labour-hire-workers/latest-release/\)](/statistics/labour/earnings-and-working-conditions/labour-hire-workers/latest-release/)

## Microdata and TableBuilder

Characteristics of Employment microdata for 2014 to 2022 will be available in [TableBuilder \(/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/tablebuilder/\)](/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/tablebuilder/) and [DataLab \(/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/datalab/\)](/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/datalab/) from 16 December 2022. For more information, refer to [Microdata and TableBuilder: Characteristics of Employment \(/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/characteristics-employment-australia/\)](/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/characteristics-employment-australia/).

## Weekly earnings

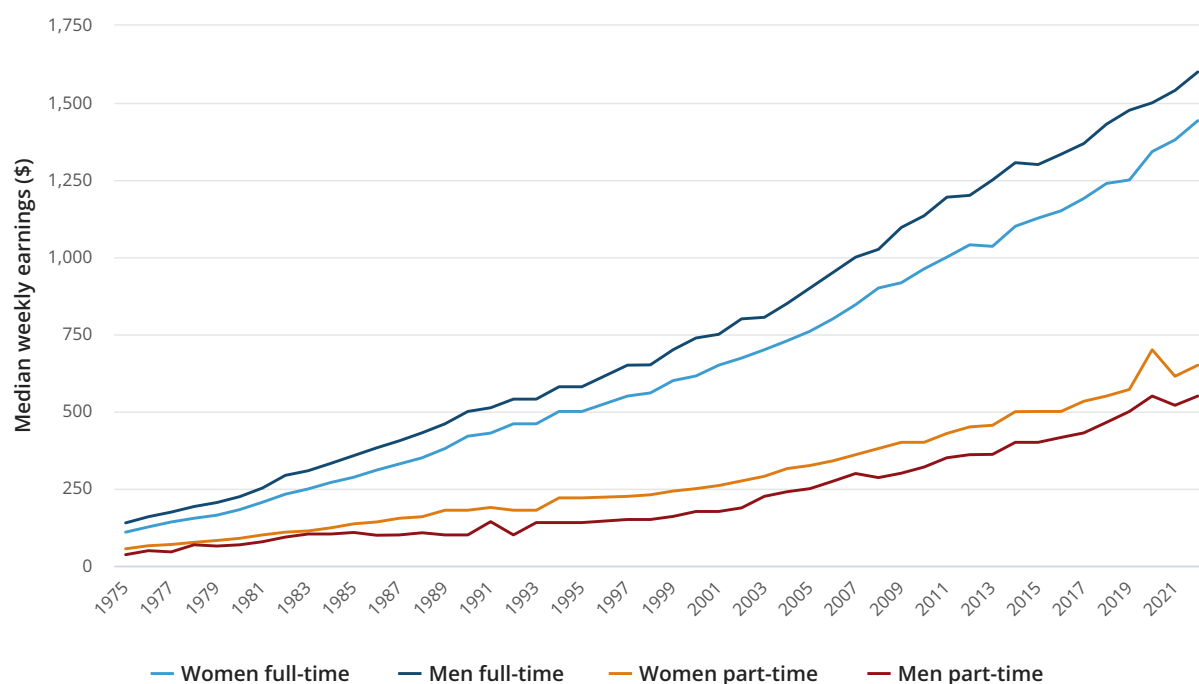
	August 2022	August 2021	August 2017	2021 to 2022	2017 to 2022
				(% change)	(% change p.a.)
Men	\$1,425	\$1,380	\$1,200	3.3%	3.5%
Women	\$1,094	\$1,030	\$899	6.2%	4.0%
Total	\$1,250	\$1,200	\$1,019	4.2%	4.2%

Note: Weekly earnings in main job

In August 2022, median weekly earnings for employees was \$1,250, up \$50 from \$1,200 in

August 2021. Median weekly earnings increased at a faster rate for women than men over the past 5 years, in part because the proportion of women working full-time increased.

## Median weekly earnings in main job, by sex and full-time or part-time status



## Hourly earnings

	August 2022	August 2021	August 2017	2021 to 2022 (% change)	2017 to 2022 (% change p.a.)
Men	\$38.80	\$37.50	\$31.60	3.3%	4.2%
Women	\$35.70	\$34.60	\$29.00	3.1%	4.3%
Total	\$37.30	\$36.00	\$30.00	3.5%	4.5%

Note: Hourly earnings in main job

## Distribution of earnings

In August 2022,

- 25% of all employees earned less than \$800 per week in their main job (25th percentile)
- 50% of all employees earned less than \$1,250 (50th percentile/median)
- 75% of all employees earned less than \$1,900 (75th percentile)
- 90% of all employees earned less than \$2,720 (90th percentile)

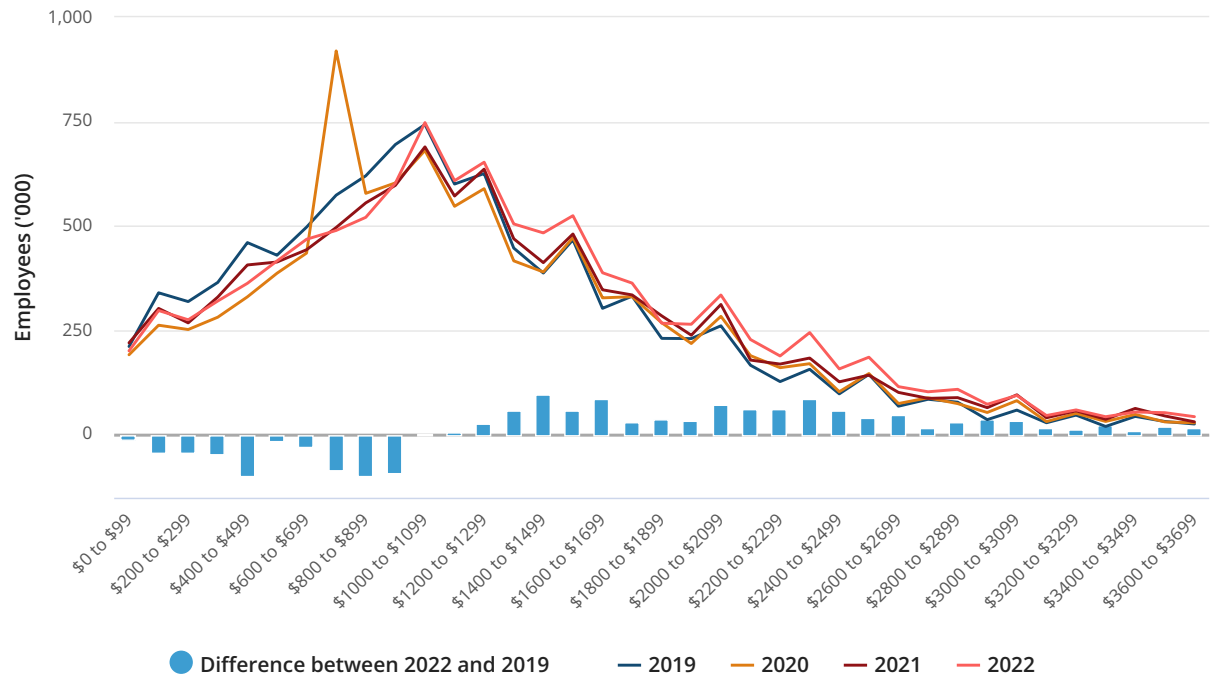
Earnings for all percentiles increased. The largest increases were seen in the 10th and 25th percentiles, both increasing by 6.7% since August 2021.

	August 2022	August 2021	August 2017	2021 to 2022 (%) change)	2017 to 2022 (%) change p.a.)
10th Percentile	\$400	\$375	\$320	6.6%	4.6%
25th Percentile	\$800	\$750	\$660	6.7%	3.9%
50th Percentile	\$1,250	\$1,200	\$1,019	4.2%	4.2%
75th Percentile	\$1,900	\$1,811	\$1,545	4.9%	4.2%
90th Percentile	\$2,720	\$2,645	\$2,250	2.8%	3.9%

Note: weekly earnings in main job

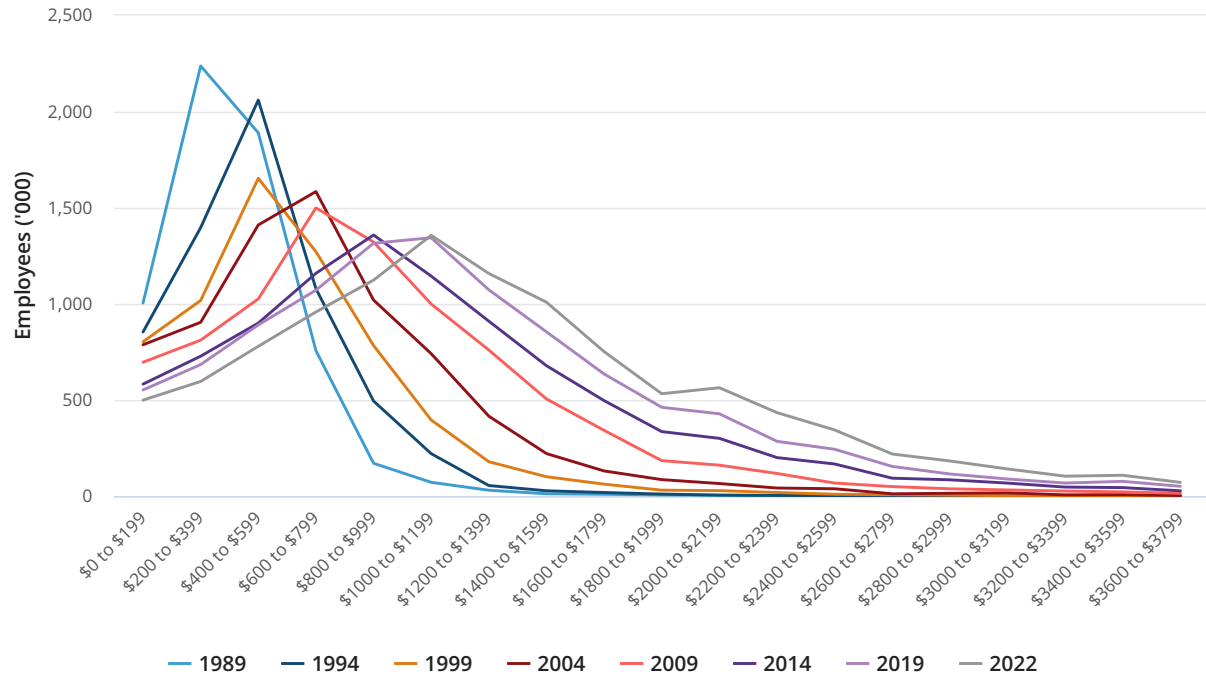
In August 2020, there were considerable changes to the distribution of earnings. Around 920,000 employees earned between \$700 and \$799 per week (which included jobs supported by \$750 payments from the JobKeeper wage subsidy), which was higher than the 570,000 earning the same amount in August 2019. In August 2021, this number dropped to 500,000 employees.

## Weekly earnings distribution in main job - 2019 to 2022



Note: In August 2020 there was a larger number of people than usual earning around \$750 per week, which was the amount of the JobKeeper wage subsidy.

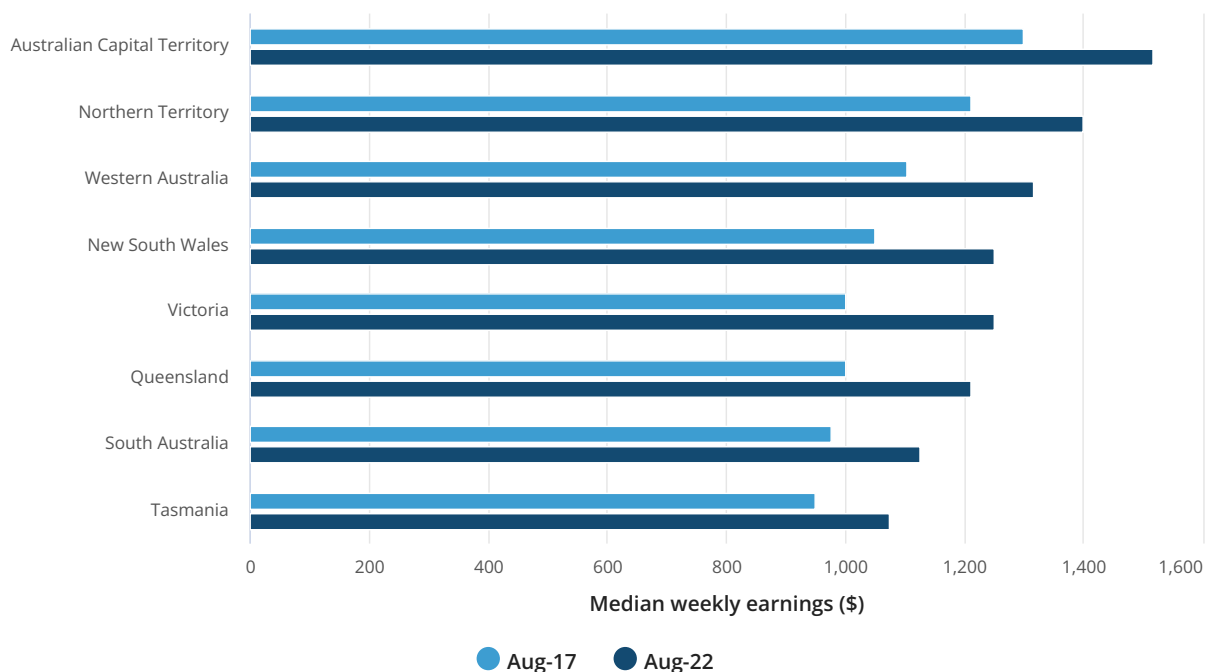
## Weekly earnings distribution in main job - 1989 to 2022



## State and territory

The state or territory with the highest median weekly earnings in August 2022 was the Australian Capital Territory at \$1,518 per week, followed by the Northern Territory (\$1,400), Western Australia (\$1,315) and New South Wales and Victoria (both \$1,250). The lowest were Tasmania (\$1,075 per week), South Australia (\$1,125) and Queensland (\$1,211).

## Median weekly earnings in main job, by state and territory



Of the state capital cities, Perth had the highest median weekly earnings (\$1,305 per week), followed by Sydney and Melbourne (both \$1,300), and Brisbane (\$1,250).

Outside the capital cities, the highest median weekly earnings were in regional Western Australia (\$1,356 per week), and the lowest was regional South Australia (\$1,000).

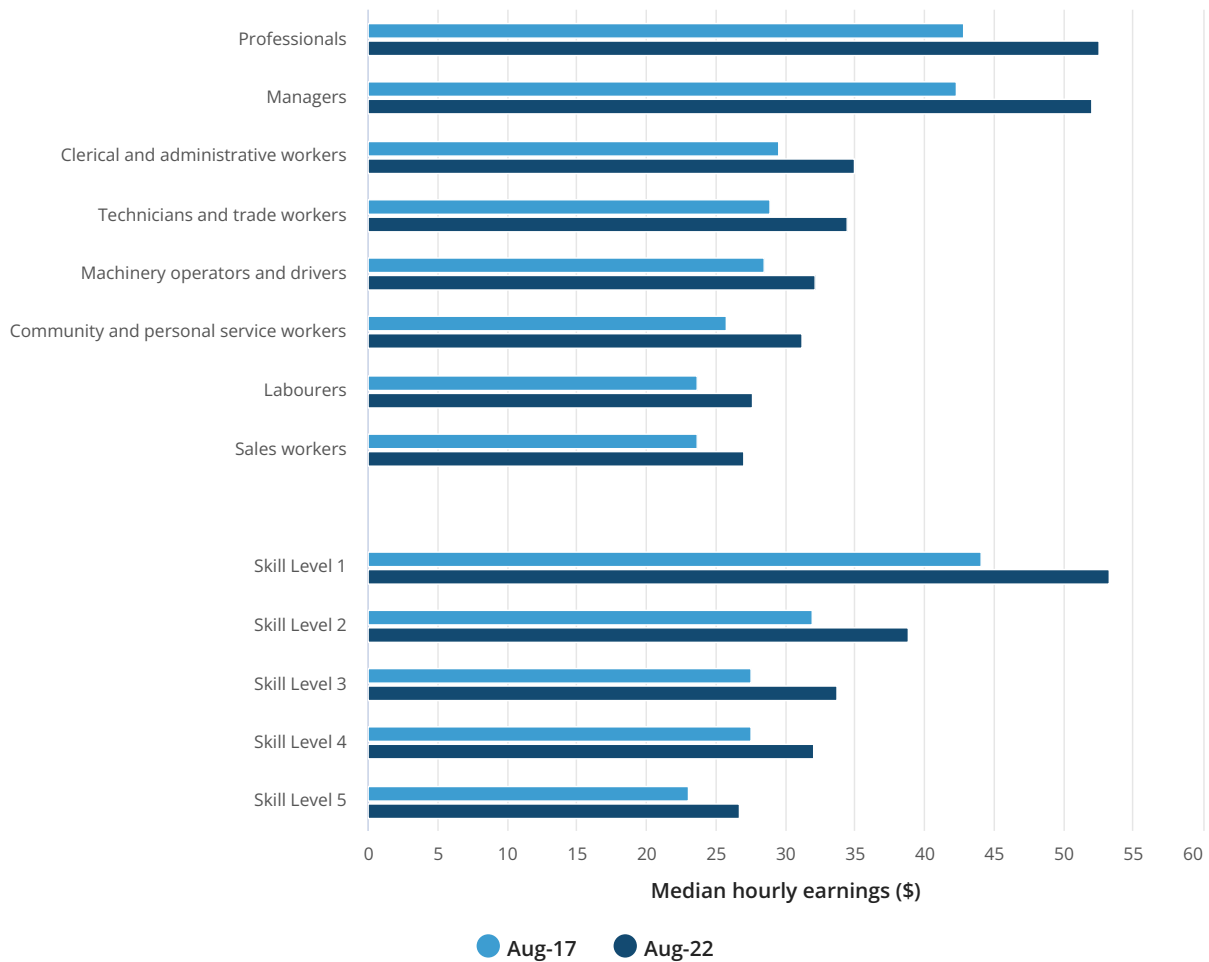
## Occupation

In August 2022, the occupations with highest median weekly earnings were Managers (\$1,900 per week) and Professionals (\$1,693). The lowest were Sales workers (\$676), Labourers (\$810) and Community and personal service workers (\$863).

Professionals and Managers also had the highest hourly rates (\$52.60 and \$52.00), while Labourers and Sales workers had the lowest hourly rate (\$27.60 and \$27.00). The gap between the median hourly rates for occupations is smaller than for the total weekly earnings measure, partly due to the difference in hours typically worked for each

occupation.

## Median hourly earnings in main job, by occupation and skill level



1. Data is coded to ANZSCO ver 1.2. For more information on Occupations and Skill level, refer to [ANZSCO - Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/allprimarymainfeatures/4AF138F6DB4FFD4BCA2571E200096BAD?opendocument\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/allprimarymainfeatures/4AF138F6DB4FFD4BCA2571E200096BAD?opendocument).

## Industry

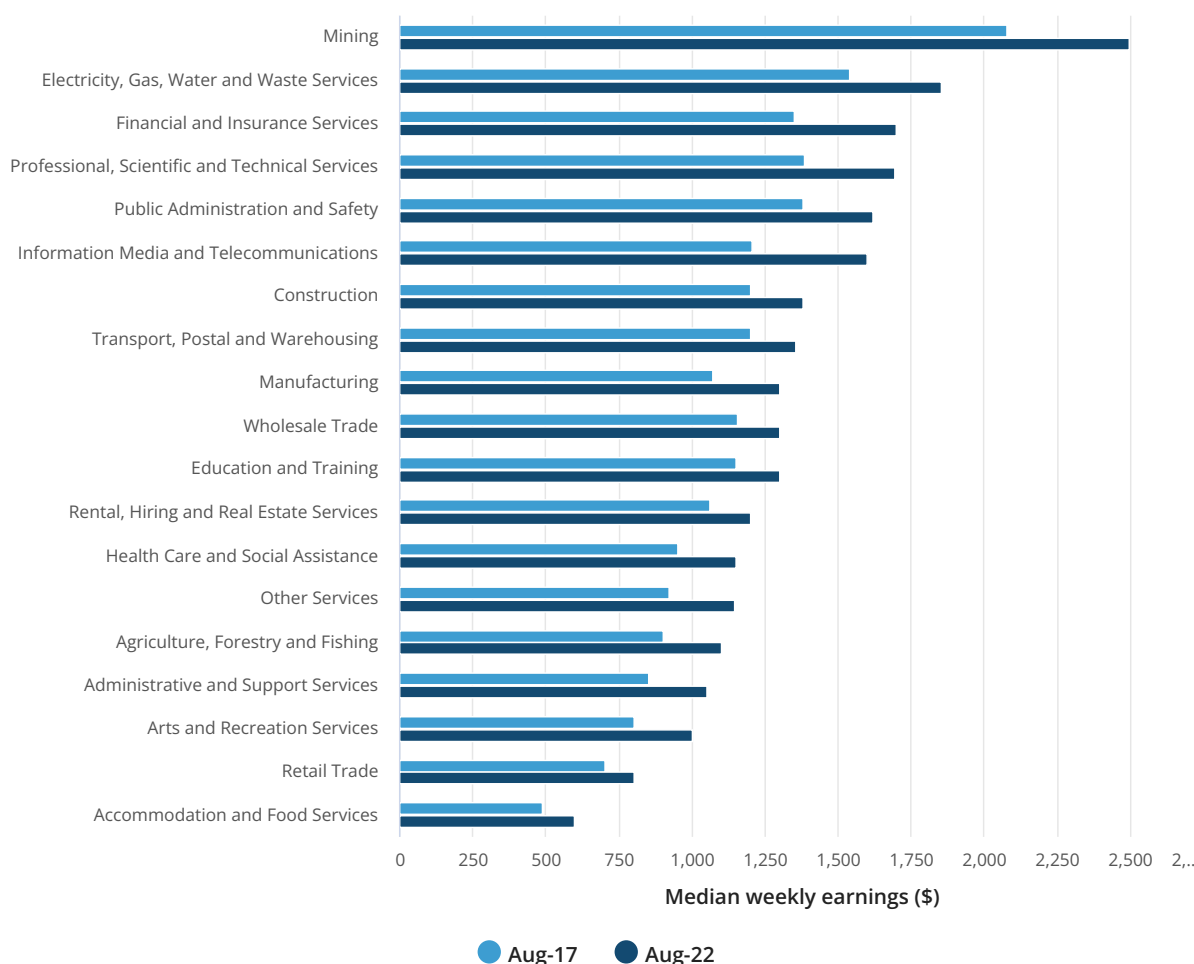
In August 2022, the industries with the highest median weekly earnings were:

- Mining (\$2,497 per week, up from \$2,341 in August 2021)
- Electricity, gas, water and waste services (\$1,855, up from \$1,730)
- Financial and insurance services (\$1,700, up from \$1,687)
- Professional, scientific and technical services (\$1,692, up from \$1,500).

The industries with the lowest median weekly earnings were:

- Accommodation and food services (\$600 per week, up from \$500 in August 2021)
- Retail trade (\$800, up from \$797)
- Arts and recreation services (\$1000, up from \$900).

## Median weekly earnings in main job, by industry



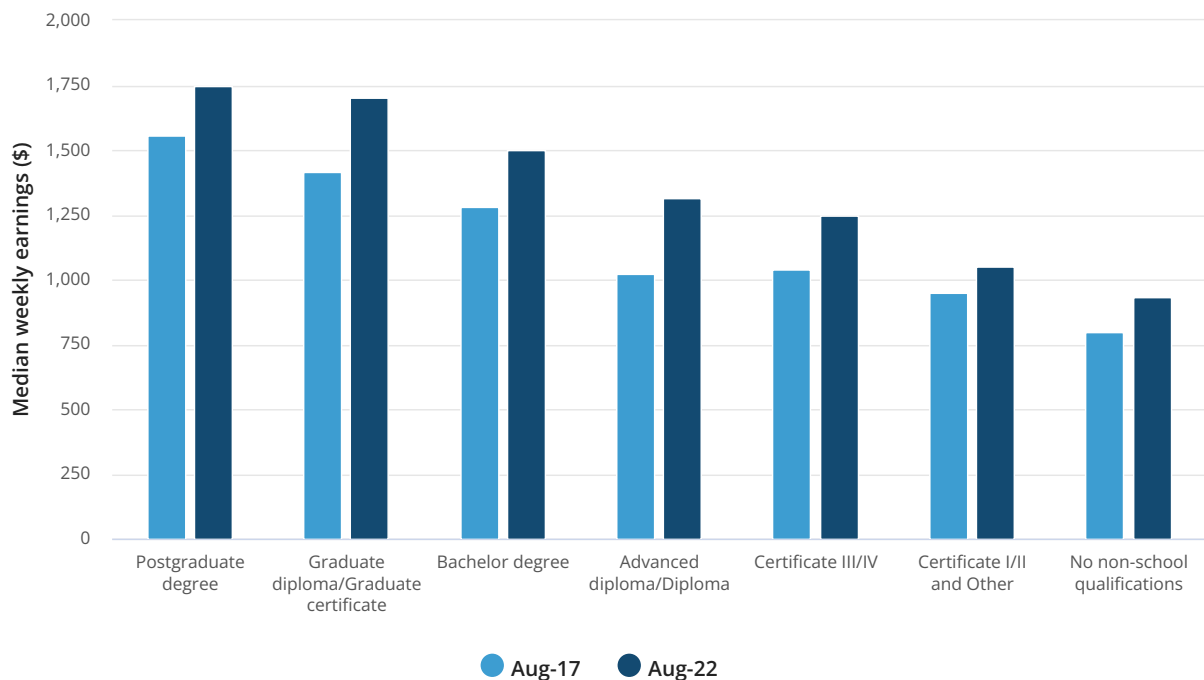
1. For more information on Industries, refer to [Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification \(ANZSIC\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1292.0) (<https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1292.0>).

## Educational qualifications

In August 2022, the highest median weekly earners were employees with a postgraduate degree (\$1,750 per week), while the lowest were those without non-school qualifications

(\$934). The largest increases in median weekly earnings, compared to August 2017, were for employees with a diploma or advanced diploma (up \$292) and a graduate diploma or graduate certificate (up \$284).

## Median weekly earnings in main job, by highest educational qualification



1. For more information on educational attainment, refer to [Australian Standard Classification of Education \(ASCED\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1272.0) (<https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/1272.0>).

## Second jobs

The best source of data on multiple job holders can be found in the [Australian Labour Account](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/latest-release) (<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/labour-accounts/labour-account-australia/latest-release>), which provides the best estimate of people working in multiple jobs by balancing the information from multiple data sources.

In August 2022, there were 890,000 people who were multiple job holders - people who worked in more than one job during the same week. This was 6.6% of total employment.

- 630,000 worked in a second job where they received employee earnings (includes both employees and owner managers of incorporated enterprises)
- 570,000 received employee earnings in both their main and second job.

Of those who received employee earnings in both their main and second jobs

- Median weekly earnings from their main job was \$937 per week, and
- Median weekly earnings from their second job was \$300 per week

In comparison, median weekly earnings for single job holders was \$1263 per week.

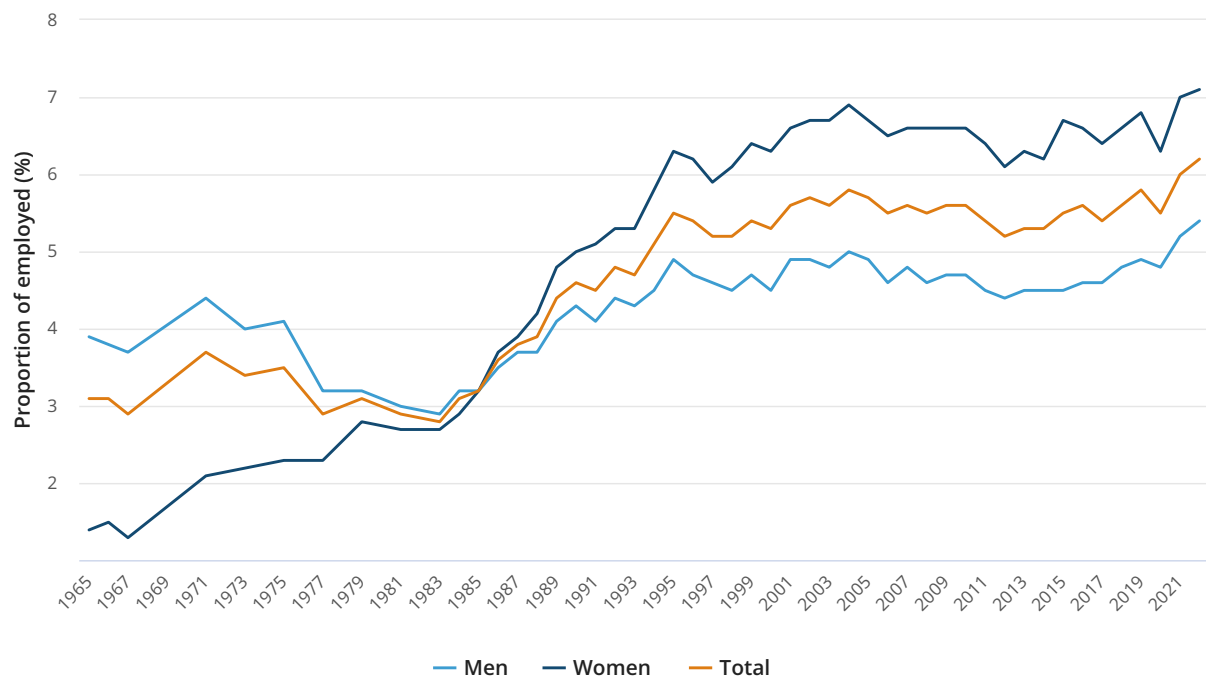
Of the 4.0 million people who earned less than \$1000 per week in their main job, 8.9% (350,000) had a second job. For people who earned \$1000 or more per week, 4.5% had a second job.

In August 2022, women were more likely to have a second job (7.8%) compared to men (5.5%). People aged 15-24 years were more likely to have a second job (7.9%) than people aged 25 years and over (6.4%).

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## Historical chart from 1965 to 2022

## Multiple job holders - 1965 to 2022



### Sources:

- 1965-1983 - [Multiple Jobholding \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/%2Fsecond+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6216.0&viewtitle=Multiple%20Jobholding,%20Australia~Aug%201997~Latest~20/03/1998&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6216.0&issue=Aug%201997&num=&view=&\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/%2Fsecond+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6216.0&viewtitle=Multiple%20Jobholding,%20Australia~Aug%201997~Latest~20/03/1998&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6216.0&issue=Aug%201997&num=&view=&). (6216.0)
- 1984-2022 - [Labour Force \(/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/longitudinal-labour-force-australia\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/longitudinal-labour-force-australia). (6202.0) - calendar year average

## Data downloads

### Employee earnings

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Table 1 - Employee earnings, 1975-2022

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Table 2 - Median earnings for employees by demographic characteristics, 2022

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[110.74 KB]

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Table 3 - Distribution of earnings for employees by industry, 2022

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[123.82 KB]

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Table 4 - Distribution of earnings for employees by occupation and skill level, 2022

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[88.41 KB]

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Table 5 - Distribution of earnings for employees by educational qualification, 2022

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[82.35 KB]

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Table 6 - Median earnings for employees by industry, occupation and educational qualification, 2022

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Table 7 - Median earnings for multiple job holders, 2014-2022

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## Historical downloads

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Table 2 - Median earnings for employees by demographic characteristics, 2014-2021

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Table 3 - Distribution of earnings for employees by industry, 2014-2021

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[915.59 KB]

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Table 4 - Distribution of earnings for employees by occupation and skill level, 2014-2021

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## Table 5 - Distribution of earnings for employees by educational qualification, 2016-2021

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## Table 6 - Median earnings for employees by industry, occupation and educational qualification, 2016-2021

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## Previous catalogue number

This release uses ABS catalogue number 6337.0\*.

Prior to 2020, statistics were published in:

- [Characteristics of Employment \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-working-conditions/characteristics-employment-australia/\)](/statistics/labour/earnings-and-working-conditions/characteristics-employment-australia/) (6333.0\*\*), 2014-2019
- [Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6310.0&viewtitle=Employee%20Earnings,%20Benefits%20and%20Trade%20Union%20Membership,%20Australia~August%202013~Latest~04/06/2014&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6310.0&issue=August%202013&num=&view=&\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6310.0&viewtitle=Employee%20Earnings,%20Benefits%20and%20Trade%20Union%20Membership,%20Australia~August%202013~Latest~04/06/2014&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6310.0&issue=August%202013&num=&view=&) (6310.0), 1999-2013
- [Weekly Earnings of Employees \(Distribution\) \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6310.0&viewtitle=Employee%20Earnings,%20Benefits%20and%20Trade%20Union%20Membership,%20Australia~August%202013~Latest~04/06/2014&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6310.0&issue=August%202013&num=&view=&\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6310.0&viewtitle=Employee%20Earnings,%20Benefits%20and%20Trade%20Union%20Membership,%20Australia~August%202013~Latest~04/06/2014&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6310.0&issue=August%202013&num=&view=&) (6310.0), 1975-1998
- [Multiple Jobholding \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6216.0&viewtitle=Multiple%20Jobholding,%20Australia~Aug%201997~Latest~20/03/1998&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6216.0&issue=Aug%201997&num=&view=&\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6216.0&viewtitle=Multiple%20Jobholding,%20Australia~Aug%201997~Latest~20/03/1998&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6216.0&issue=Aug%201997&num=&view=&) (6216.0), 1965-1997

\*Note: Catalogue number 6337.0 was previously used for [Working Hours Arrangements, Australia \(Preliminary\) \(https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/6337.0\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/6337.0), Feb to May 1981.

\*\*Note: Catalogue number 6333.0 was previously used for [Working Conditions, Australia \(Preliminary\) \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/6335.0Feb-May%201979?OpenDocument\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/6335.0Feb-May%201979?OpenDocument), Feb to May 1979.

## Methodology

[Characteristics of Employment, Australia methodology, August 2022](#)